

## **Media Contact:**

Greg Risling Public Information Officer 213-974-3525 GRisling@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

March 2, 2015

## Inglewood Man Charged With Capital Murder, Human Trafficking

An Inglewood man has been charged with the capital murder of a 21-year-old victim and sexually assaulting an 11-year-old girl he is accused of forcing into prostitution, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Robert James Spells (dob 2/6/85) was charged in case BA434100 with one count of murder with the special circumstance of murder during the commission of a robbery. He also faces one count each of second-degree robbery, human trafficking of a minor for a sex act, forcible lewd act upon a child, lewd act upon a child and two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child.

Spells is scheduled to be arraigned today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center. Deputy District Attorney Lisa Coen of the Sex Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

Prosecutors said Spells is accused of killing Deshawn B., during a robbery in the 6100 block of South Wilton Place on Dec. 3, 2014.

Spells is facing a human trafficking charge for allegedly offering an 11-year-old girl to men for sex between Feb. 7 and Feb. 16. He also is accused of sexually assaulting her.

If convicted as charged, Spells could face life in state prison without the possibility of parole or the death penalty. The decision on whether to seek the death penalty will be made at a later date.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.